

## Human Services & Access to Jobs and Justice 2012 Final Legislative Agenda

Below are the human services bills that Western Center sponsored and are on their way to the Governor's desk or are already there. Included with a brief bill description are the list of supporters that submitted letters to the relevant policy committees and the final vote counts.

[SB 970 \(de León\)](#) would require that the new single application for healthcare coverage required by the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) to allow applicants to use that information to start an application for public programs such as CalFresh and CalWORKs.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (27 'Aye' / 6 'No'), Assembly (53 'Aye' / 26 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (sponsor), ACCESS Women's Health Justice, Alameda County Community Food Bank, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, California Association of Food Banks, California Black Health Network, California Catholic Conference, California Children's Health Coverage Coalition, California Commission on Aging, California Communities United Institute, California Coverage & Health Initiatives, California Family Resource Association, California Food Policy Advocates, California Hunger Action Coalition, California Immigrant Policy Center, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network, California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, California Primary Care Association, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, California School Employees Association, California School Nutrition Association, California WIC Association, Catholic Charities of California United, Children Now, Children's Defense Fund, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc., Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, Consumer Federation of California, County Welfare Directors Association of California, George M. Shirakawa, President of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Greenlining Institute, Having Our Say, Health Access California, Hunger Action Los Angeles, Jericho: A Voice for Justice, La Cooperativa Campesina de California, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, LifeLong Medical Care, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Madera Coalition for Community Justice, National Association of Social Workers, National Health Law Program, River City Food Bank, San Francisco Food Security Task Force, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Service Employees International Union, The Children's Partnership

[SB 1391 \(Liu\)](#) would set a standard, statewide threshold and policy for establishing and collecting CalFresh overissuances when the overissuance is due to administrative error.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (26 'Aye' / 7 'No'), Assembly (52 'Aye' / 24 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (Sponsor), Alameda County Community Food Bank, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO, California Alliance of Child and Family Services, California Association of Food Banks, California Catholic Conference, Inc., California Family Resource Association (CFRA), California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA), California Hunger Action Coalition (CHAC), California Partnership to End Domestic violence (The Partnership), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc., County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), Feeding America San Diego, Hunger Advocacy Network, Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS), National Association of Social Workers, San Francisco Food Security Task Force, St Anthony Foundation in San Francisco, The Hand Up Youth Food Pantry Student Advisory Board, The San Diego Hunger Coalition

[AB 1359 \(Skinner\)](#) would simplify the administration of immediate need CalFresh benefits and would ensure conformity of state law to federal law regulations in administering applications for expedited CalFresh services.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (36 'Aye' / 1 'No'), Assembly (79 'Aye' / 0 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (co-sponsor), California Association of Food Banks, California Food Policy Advocates, California Hunger Action Coalition, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc. (co-sponsor), California County Welfare Directors Association (co-sponsor), Service Employees International Union (co-sponsor)

[AB 1640 \(Mitchell\)](#) would change the state's CalWORKs statute to allow for pregnant teenager (with no other children in the household) to become eligible for CalWORKs basic needs grants and upon verification of the pregnancy rather than making her wait until the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (25 'Aye' / 12 'No'), Assembly (54 'Aye' / 26 'No')

**Supporters:** California Black Women's Health Project (co-sponsor), Western Center on Law and Poverty (co-sponsor), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) AFL-CIO, California Association of Food Banks, California Catholic Conference, Inc., California Communities United Institute, California Food Policy Advocates, California Hunger Action Coalition, California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), California Welfare Directors Association, California WIC Association, Children Now, Catholic Charities of California United, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc., County Welfare Directors Association of CA (CWDA), East Bay Community Law Center, JERICHO, Laborers' Local 777, Laborers' Local 792, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, National Association of Social Workers, National Health Law Program, Public Counsel Law Center, Children's Rights Project, St. Anthony's Foundation, San Francisco, San Diego Hunger Coalition, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, United Ways of California, Zero to Three

[AB 1775 \(Wieckowski\)](#) would protect low-income workers against excessive wage garnishment.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (22 'Aye' / 16 'No'), Assembly (51 'Aye' / 28 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (sponsor), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), California Advocates for California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR), California Labor Federation, Central California Legal Services, Inc., Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, Inc., Legal Services of Northern California, Public Counsel, Public Law Center, Yuba Sutter Legal Center for Seniors

[AB 2393 \(Davis\)](#) would increase the threshold that would qualify a parent paying child support to qualify for a low-income adjustment require it be adjusted annually for cost of living increases.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (37 'Aye' / 0 'No'), Assembly (78 'Aye' / 0 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (sponsor), Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc., The Executive Committee of the Family Law Section of the State Bar (FLEXCOM), Feeding America San Diego, Judicial Council of California

[AB 2508 \(Bonilla\)](#) would preclude state agencies or departments from authorizing call-center contracts for public assistance or health benefit programs if they hire employees outside California to perform the work. California Labor Federation is a co-sponsor of this legislation.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (31 'Aye' / 3 'No'), Assembly (56 'Aye' / 24 'No')

**Supporters:** California Labor Federation (co-sponsor), Western Center on Law and Poverty (co-sponsor), American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, California Community Colleges CalWORKs Association, California School Employees Association, Health Access California, Jericho, Service Employees International Union Local 1000, UC Berkeley Labor Center

[AB 2035 \(Bradford\)](#) would protect recipients of cash assistance from electronic theft of their benefits. This bill has been introduced as a result of *Carpio v. Lightbourne*, a case brought by Western Center on Law and Poverty and Neighborhood Legal Services.

**Final Floor Votes:** Senate (37 'Aye' / 0 'No'), Assembly (77 'Aye' / 1 'No')

**Supporters:** Western Center on Law and Poverty (sponsor), California Bankers Association, California Catholic Conference, Inc., California Coalition of Welfare Rights Organizations, Inc., California Reinvestment Coalition, Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations, Consumer Federation of California, Insight Center for Community Economic Development, Legal Services of Northern California, National association of Social Workers

**Western Center on Law and Poverty** is a support center for California's legal aid community and leads the way in large-scale impact litigation, administrative advocacy, budget advocacy and legislative advocacy in an effort to ensure that low-income Californians can easily access safe and affordable housing, adequate health care, and safety net services. For more information, contact:

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